FILED December 19, 2018 INDIANA UTILITY **REGULATORY COMMISSION**

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

CAUSE NO. 45141-U

OUCC TESTIMONY

OF

RICHARD J. COREY – PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT NO. 1

ON BEHALF

OF

THE INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

DECEMBER 19, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

Deputy Consumer Counselor

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing Office of Utility Consumer Counselor's Testimony of Richard J. Corey has been served upon the following counsel of record in the captioned proceeding by electronic service on December 19, 2018.

Larry Smith SOUTHERN MONROE WATER **AUTHORITY** 5790 S Fairfax Road Bloomington, IN 47401

E-mail: lsmith@cpa-consultant.com

T. Jason Haas

Deputy Consumer Counselor

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

115 West Washington Street Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204 infomgt@oucc.in.gov 317/232-2494 - Phone

317/232-5923 - Facsimile

TESTIMONY OF OUCC WITNESS RICHARD J. COREY CAUSE NO. 45141-U SOUTHERN MONROE WATER AUTHORITY

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1	Q:	Please state your name and business address.
2	A:	My name is Richard J. Corey, and my business address is 115 West Washington
3		Street, Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.
4	Q:	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
5	A:	I am employed the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC") as a
6		Utility Analyst in the Water/Wastewater Division. My qualifications and
7		experience are described in Appendix A.
8	Q:	What is the purpose of your testimony?
9	A:	Southern Monroe Water Authority ("Southern Monroe" or "Applicant") requests
10		an across the board rate increase of 9.07%. As a result of its review and analysis,
11		the OUCC proposes a rate increase of 1.44%. The purpose of my testimony is to
12		present the OUCC's position as reflected in the OUCC schedules I have attached
13		to my testimony. I propose adjustments to operating expenses to reflect changes
14		to employee benefits expense and the removal of a non-recurring cost.
15	Q:	What actions did you take to prepare your testimony?
16	A:	I reviewed Applicant's testimony, schedules, and workpapers. I conducted the
17		OUCC's field audit on November 9, 2018. I reviewed Southern Monroe's
18		Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission" or "IURC") Annual
19		Reports for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. I reviewed the Commission's final order
20		from Southern Monroe's last rate case (Cause No.43952). I reviewed ratepayer

1		comments submitted to the OUCC. I prepared discovery questions and reviewed
2		Applicant's responses.
3	Q:	Do you sponsor any schedules or attachments?
4	A:	Yes. I sponsor the following schedules and attachments:
5		Schedule 1 – Comparison of Applicant's and OUCC's Revenue Requirements
6 7		Schedule 2 – Comparative Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015.
8 9		Schedule 3 – Comparative Income Statement for the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015.
10	1	Schedule 4 – Pro Forma Net Operating Income Statement
11		Schedule 5 – Revenue Adjustments
12		Schedule 6 – Expense Adjustments
13		Schedule 7 – Extensions and Replacements
14		Schedule 8 - Proposed Rates and Charges
15		Attachment RJC – 1 – Disallowed Costs
	II.	SOUTHERN MONROE'S CASE IN CHIEF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
16 17	Q:	Please explain your adjustments to Applicant's balance sheet and income statement.
18	A:	Based on communications between Applicant and IURC staff, conversations
19		during the OUCC's field visit, and Applicant's response to informal OUCC Data
20		Requests, I determined that Applicant's case-in-chief financial statements needed
21		certain adjustments to correctly reflect its financial position as of the end of the
22		test year. The adjustments include a \$2,370 decrease to Other Revenue, a \$7,127
23		decrease to Contract Services - Other, a \$13,343 decrease to Miscellaneous

1		Expense, a \$17 decrease to interest income and an \$18,083 decrease to non-utility
2		income. See OUCC Schedule 3.
		III. PROPOSED RATE INCREASE
3	Q:	What level of rate increase is Applicant requesting?
4	A:	Applicant proposes to increase its current rates by 9.07% to generate an additional
5		\$103,574 of revenues. Applicant proposes to implement the rate increase across-
6		the-board and in a single phase.
7	Q:	What are the principal drivers of Applicant's requested increase?
8	A:	The principal drivers of Applicant's requested rate increase are increased
9		extensions and replacements and operating expenses.
10	Q:	What rate increase does the OUCC recommend?
11	A:	The OUCC recommends an overall across-the-board rate increase of 1.44% to
12		produce an increase in water revenues of \$16,537 per year. Table 1 compares
13		Southern Monroe's overall proposed revenue requirement with the OUCC's
14		proposal.

Table RJC-1: Comparison of Overall Revenue Requirement

	Petitioner	OUCC	(Less)
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,121,020	\$ 1,093,338	\$ (27,682)
Taxes other than Income	7,230	7,230	0
Extensions and Replacements	137,449	122,762	(14,687)
Debt Service			
Debt Service Reserve	-		
Total Revenue Requirements	1,265,699	1,223,330	(42,369)
Less:			
Interest Income	(2,387)	(2,387)	-
Other Income	_	(43,675)	(43,675)
Net Revenue Requirements	\$ 1,263,312	\$ 1,177,268	\$ (86,044)
Less:			
Revenue at Current Rates Subject to Inc.	(1,142,138)	(1,145,384)	(3,246)
Other Revenues at Current Rates	(17,738)	(15,368)	2,370
Net Revenue Increase Required	103,436	16,516	(86,920)
Add: Additional IURC Fee	138	21	` , ,
Add. Additional TORC Fee	136	21	(117)
Recommended Increase	103,574	16,537	(87,037)

What are the differences between the overall revenue requirement proposed 1 Q: by Southern Monroe and that recommended by the OUCC? 2 OUCC Schedule 1, page 2 of 2, lists all differences in the OUCC's and Southern 3 A: Monroe's' operating expenses The OUCC's lower proposed operating expenses 4 are due to a certain expense that is disallowed for rate making purposes. Also, the 5 OUCC proposes adjustments to Applicant's employee benefits expense. These 6 adjustments are explained below. 7

IV. REVENUE REQUIREMENT CALCULATION

1 2	Q:	Do you agree with Applicant's methodology for calculating its required rate increase?
3	A:	No.
4 5	Q:	How does Applicant's calculation of its revenue requirement differ from your calculation?
6	A:	During the test year, Applicant generated \$43,675 in other revenue which it did
7		not include as an offset to its revenue requirement. These revenues are described
8		in Applicant's filing as "revenues from merchandising, jobbing and contract
9		work." In Applicant's trial balance these revenues are described as "new meter
10		sets" of \$26,760 and "disconnect or reconnect" of \$17,914. Since the costs
11		incurred to generate these revenues are included in Applicant's operating expense
12		revenue requirement, these revenues should be used to reduce its overall revenue
13		requirement. See OUCC Schedule 1, page 1.

V. REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS

14	Q:	Does Applicant make any revenue adjustments?
15	A:	No.
16	Q:	What test year residential customer growth adjustment do you propose?
17	A:	I propose an increase to test year residential operating revenues of \$3,246 per
18		year.
19	Q:	How did you derive that amount?
20	A:	I divided test year residential sales of \$1,074,036 by the total number of test year
21		billings (i.e. 40,366). That calculation results in an average customer bill of
22		\$26.61 per month. To determine the net additional annual bills that would result

due to growth during the test year, I multiplied the increase (or decrease) in monthly test year customers by the number of additional (or reduction of) bills that would have been invoiced had that customer been a customer for the entire year. The result is a net increase of 122 customer bills. I then multiplied the additional customer bills by the average test year bill of \$26.61 to calculate my residential customer growth adjustment of \$3,246 (See OUCC Schedule 5, Adjustment 1.)

VI. OPERATING EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS

- 8 Q: What operating expense adjustments did Applicant propose?
- 9 A: Applicant proposed no operating expense adjustments.
- 10 Q: What operating expense adjustments do you propose?
- 11 A; I propose an adjustment to remove a test year transaction that is non-recurring in
 12 nature and to increase Applicant's employee benefits expense to reflect the
 13 increased cost of health insurance. The total operating expense adjustments I
 14 propose result in a decrease of \$7,212 to test year operating expense of
 15 \$1,100,550 to yield *pro forma* operating expenses of \$1,093,338.

1. Disallowed Item

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

- 16 Q: Please explain the OUCC's adjustment for disallowed expense.
- 17 A: During its test year Applicant incurred costs of \$8,250 for an annual audit which
 18 was performed by London Witte Group, CPA's. During discussions during the
 19 OUCC's on site accounting review Applicant indicated that going forward it will
 20 no longer have an annual audit. Accordingly, I have removed the cost of the audit
 21 as a non-recurring expense. See OUCC Schedule 6, Adjustment 2.

2. Employee Benefits

- 1 Q: Please explain the OUCC's adjustment for employee benefits.
- 2 A: During my review of Applicant's books and records I determined that its cost to
- provide health insurance to its two employee had increased by \$1,038 annually. I
- 4 have adjusted Applicant's employee benefits expense to reflect that increase. See
- 5 OUCC Schedule 6 Adjustment No. 2.

VII. EXTENSIONS AND REPLACEMENTS

- 6 Q: Has Southern Monroe requested a provision for extensions and replacements
- 7 in its proposed revenue requirement?
- 8 A: Yes. Southern Monroe proposed a pro forma revenue requirement of \$137,449
- 9 for extensions and replacements. Applicant derived this amount by multiplying
- its utility plant in service as of December 31, 2017 of \$8,085,212 by the
- composite depreciation rate of 1.70% (\$8,085,212 times 1.70% equals \$137,449).
- 12 Q: Do you accept Applicant's proposed provision for extensions and
- 13 replacements?
- 14 A: No. As a not-for-profit utility Southern Monroe is not able to use depreciation to
- calculate its E&R revenue requirements. The correct method to estimate
- extensions and replacements it to add the total amount spent for capital
- investments during the most recent three years, deduct the amount that was
- 18 funded by debt or through contribution and divide the result by three. During the
- last three years, Applicant has spent a total of \$1,399,064 in capital improvements
- and has received \$1,030,778 in contributions in aid of constructions. None of
- 21 Applicant's improvements were funded by debt. Dividing the difference in these
- 22 two amounts by three results in the OUCC proposed allowance for extensions and

- 1 replacements of \$122,762. The following table illustrates the OUCC's extensions
- 2 and replacements calculation:

Table 2 - Calculation of OUCC's Extensions and Replacements

	2015	2016	2017
Additions per Annual Report W-3(a)	\$1,079,754	\$ 160,195	\$ 159,115
Less: Additional CIAC	(897,462)	(120,685)	(12,631)
	\$ 182,292	\$ 39,510	146,484
		,	
			368,286
			3
			\$ 122,762

VIII. OUCC RECOMMENDATIONS

3	Q:	Please summarize your re	commendations to the Commission.
---	----	--------------------------	----------------------------------

- A: After making adjustments to the Applicant's revenue requirement, I determined that the Applicant requires a net revenue increase of \$16,537, or a 1.44% increase to current rates. I recommend the Commission authorize a 1.44% increase in operating revenues, on an across-the-board basis, to provide Southern Monroe the opportunity to collect \$1,177,268 in net revenues.
- 9 Q: Does this conclude your testimony?
- 10 A: Yes.

APPENDIX A

Q: Please describe your educational background and experience.

1

2 I graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science degree majoring A: 3 in accounting. Upon graduation, I took a position as an accountant for Tousley-Bixler Construction Company for whom I worked until 1984. At that time, I 4 5 began attending Indiana University School of Law. After graduating from law 6 school in 1988, I was employed by the public accounting firm of Boyd, Stamper 7 & Leeds and participated in the preparation of compilations, audits, and corporate 8 and individual tax returns. From 1990 to 1993, I worked for the CPA firm of 9 Myers & Stauffer, which specializes in Medicaid accounting, consulting and rate 10 setting. After a short tenure with the OUCC as a Principal accountant in 1993, I 11 became Controller, Corporate Secretary, and a member of the Board of Directors 12 of General Acceptance Corporation. I returned to the OUCC in 1998 as an 13 Assistant Utility Consumer Counselor and represented the interests of the public 14 before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission") in a variety of Gas, Water and Telecommunications cases. I assumed my current position as a 15 16 Utility Analyst with the OUCC in April of 2005. Since joining the OUCC, I have 17 attended the NARUC Annual Regulatory Studies Program, the NARUC Utility 18 Rate School, and other continuing educations programs. I became licensed as a 19 Certified Public Accountant in 1983. Having left the practice of public 20 accounting in 1993, my license is currently inactive. I am also an inactive 21 member of the Indiana Bar in good standing.

1 2	Q:	Have you previously testified before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission?
3	A:	Yes. I have testified in many cases before the Commission including a number of
4		applications by municipal, not-for-profit and investor owned water utilities for
5		financing authority and changes to rates and charges.

Comparison of Petitioner's and OUCC's Revenue Requirements

	Per Petitioner	Per OUCC	Sch Ref	OUCC More (Less)	
Operating Expenses Taxes other than Income	\$ 1,121,020 7,230	\$ 1,093,338 7,230	4 PET	\$ (27,682)	
Extensions and Replacements	137,449	122,762	7	(14,687)	
Total Revenue Requirements Less: Interest Income Other Income	1,265,699 (2,387)	1,223,330 (2,387) (43,675)	PET 3	(42,369) - (43,675)	
Net Revenue Requirements Less: Revenues at current rates subject to increase Other revenues at current rates	1,263,312 (1,142,138) (17,738)	1,177,268 (1,145,384) (15,368)	4 4	(86,044) (3,246) 2,370	
Net Revenue Increase Required Add: Additional IURC Fee	103,436 138	16,516 21		(86,920) (117)	
Recommended Increase	\$ 103,574	\$ 16,537		\$ (87,037)	
Recommended Percentage Increase	9.07%	1.44%		-7.62%	

		Prop	osed			OUCC
Current Rate for 5,000 Gallons	Pet	titioner		OUCC	<u>M</u>	<u>lore (Less)</u>
Current Rate = \$34.80	\$	37.95	\$	35.30	\$	(2.65)

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET As of December 31,

ASSETS	2017	2016	2015
Utility Plant:			
Utility Plant in Service	\$ 8,085,212	\$ 8,084,602	\$ 8,084,307
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(3,677,638)	(3,589,611)	(3,400,064)
Net Utility Plant in Service	4,407,574	4,494,991	4,684,243
Restricted Assets:			
Debt Service Fund	342,213	328,750	325,120
Total Restricted Assets	342,213	328,750	325,120
Current Assets:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	317,254	304,922	329,034
Temporary Cash Investments	375,450	386,873	383,504
Accounts Receivable	224,427	217,335	223,831
Materials and Supplies	28,044	28,044	31,563
Prepaids		6,365	16,937
Other Current Assets	·		
Total Current Assets	945,175	943,539	984,869
Total Assets	\$ 5,694,962	\$ 5,767,280	\$ 5,994,232

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET As of December 31,

LIABILITIES	2017	2016	2015
Equity Retained Earnings	\$ 2,278,035	\$ 2,419,796	\$ 2,640,699
Paid in Capital Total Equity	2,278,035	2,419,796	2,640,699
Contributions in Aid of Construction	2,987,799	2,975,168	2,854,483
	:		
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	74,143	37,208	35,310
Note Payable			129,734
Customer Deposits	348,264	328,750	325,120
Accrued Wages			
Accrued Taxes	6,721	6,358	8,886
Other Current Liabilities	429,128	372,316	499,050
Total Liabilities	\$ 5,694,962	\$ 5,767,280	\$ 5,994,232

COMPARATIVE INCOME STATEMENT Twelve Months Ended December 31,

	204=		2017	2016	2015
Operating Revenues	2017	Adjustments	As Adjusted	2016	2015
Residential Sales	\$ 1,074,036		\$ 1,074,036	\$ 1,078,129	\$ 1,071,939
Commercial Sales	27,241		27,241	26,648	37,315
Other Metered Sales	40,861		40,861	42,100	8,071
Other Wictered Sales Other	17,738	(2,370)	15,368	15,390	32,088
Total Operating Revenues	1,159,876	(2,370)	1,157,506	1,162,267	1,149,413
Operating Expenses					
Salaries and Wages	55,845		55,845	145,459	241,189
Salaries and Wages - Officers and Directors	34,900		34,900	33,336	41,900
Employee Benefits	13,126		13,126	27,281	39,195
Purchased Water	438,950		438,950	404,716	403,139
Purchased Power	13,806		13,806	13,686	13,902
Chemicals	5,101		5,101	5,087	6,527
Materials and Supplies					
Contractual Services - Engineering	8,250		8,250	4,210	3,685
Contractual Services - Accounting	15,804		15,804	15,804	15,804
Contractual Services - legal	7,200		7,200	7,200	9,805
Contractual Services - Other	317,178	(7,127)	310,051	203,649	50,245
Transportation Expense				6,276	16,107
Insurance - General Liability	8,352		8,352	6,946	32,000
Insurance - Workman's Compensation	550		550	550	725
Advertising Expense	1,271		1,271		
Bad Debt Expense	3,957		3,957	506	336
Rate Case Expense Amortization			•		
Miscellaneous Expense	196,730	(13,343)	183,387	312,587	224,216
Total O&M Expense	1,121,020	(20,470)	1,100,550	1,187,293	1,098,775
Depreciation Expense Amortization Expense	195,383		195,383	195,544	202,469
Taxes Other than Income	7,230		7,230	16,109	22,573
	1,323,633	(20,470)	1,303,163	1,398,946	1,323,817
Total Operating Expenses	1,323,033	(20,470)	1,303,103	1,390,940	1,323,617
Net Operating Income	(163,757)	18,100	(145,657)	(236,679)	(174,404)
Other Income (Expense)					
Interest Income	2,387	(17)	2,370	8,417	4,067
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Assets	(42,149)	,	(42,149)	(41,125)	
Other Income	43,675		43,675	36,962	40,617
Non-Utility Income	18,083	(18,083)	, -	15,095	11,160
Interest Expense	,	(,)		(3,573)	(6,592)
Total Other Income (Expense)	21,996	(18,100)	3,896	15,776	49,252
Net Income	\$ (141,761)	\$ -	\$ (141,761)	\$ (220,903)	\$ (125,152)

Pro-forma Net Operating Income Statement

	Year			Pro-forma			Pro-Forma
	Ended		Sch	Present		Sch	Proposed
	12/31/2017	Adjustments	Ref	Rates	Adjustments	Ref	Rates
Operating Revenues						-	
Residential Sales	\$ 1,074,036	\$ 3,246	5-1	\$ 1,077,282	\$ 15,554	1	\$ 1,092,836
Commercial Sales	27,241	-		27,241	393	1	27,634
Other Metered Sales	40,861			40,861	590	1	41,451
Other	15,368			15,368			15,368
Total Operating Revenues	1,157,506	3,246		1,160,752	16,537		1,177,289
O&M Expense	1,100,550			1,093,338			1,093,338
Non-recurring Expenditure		(8,250)	6-1				
Employee Benefits		1,038	6-2				
Depreciation Expense	195,383	'		195,383			195,383
Amortization Expense	· •			-			-
Taxes Other than Income	7,230			7,230	21		7,251
Total Operating Expenses	1,303,163	(7,212)		1,295,951	21		1,295,972
Net Operating Income	\$ (145,657)	\$ 10,458		\$ (135,199)	\$ 16,516		\$ (118,683)

Revenue Adjustments

(1) Residential Revenue Normalization

To adjust test year residential water sales to normalize the change in the number of customers that occurred during the test year

Months	Number of Residential Customers	Increase/ Decrease in Number of Bills	Multiplier	Additional Monthly Bills
Jan	3,354		0	
Feb	3,355	1	1	1
Mar	3,351	(4)	2	(8)
Apr	3,362	11	3	33
May	3,362	0	4	0
Jun	3,363	1	5	5
Jul	3,365	2	6	12
Aug	3,366	1	7	7
Sep	3,368	2	8	16
Oct	3,372	4	9	36
Nov	3,374	2	10	20
Dec	3,374	0	11	0
	40,366	Number of Addi	tional Bills	122
	•	Times: Average	Bill	\$ 26.61
		Adjustment Incre	ease/(Decrease)	\$ 3,246

Average Bill per Residential Customer	\$ 26.61
Divided by: 12 Month Total # of Customers	 40,366
Test Year Residential Sales	\$ 1,074,036

Expense Adjustments

(1)

Non-Recurring Expenditure

To remove the cost of an audit which will not recur in the future.

Adjustment Increase (Decrease	e)		\$ (8,250)
(2) Employee Benefits To reflect an increase in employee health insurance costs			
Currently Monthly Amount Billed for Health Insurance Times twelve months	\$	1,180 12	
Pro form Health Insurance Expense		14,164	
Less: Test tear expense	\$	(13,126)	
Adjustment Increase (Decrease)		\$ 1,038

Extensions and Replacements

To reflect the average amount of extensions and replacements required over a three year period.

	 2015	2016		2017
Additions per Annual Report W-3(a)	\$ 1,079,754	\$ 160,195	\$	159,115
Less: Additional CIAC	 (897,462)	 (120,685)		(12,631)
	\$ 182,292	\$ 39,510		146,484
				368,286
				3
			\$	122,762



Southern Monroe Water Authority 5790 S. Fairfax Road Bloomington, IN 47401 Client No: 10119.001 Date: 04/30/2017

Invoice No: 30074

Professional services rendered in connection with the preparation of the annual audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016

\$ 8,250.00

Progress Applied

(5,500.00)

Current Amount Due

2,750.00

OUCC Attachment RJC-1
SOUTHERN MUCHINE WOLFS MATTHORITY
Page 2 of 2
WG CPA's & Advisors
Date Type Reference
2/28/2017 Bill 29826

30812

Original Amt. 5,500.00 Balance Due 5,500.00

3/13/2017 Discount

Payment 5,500.00 5,500.00

Check Amount

Peoples State Bank C Invoice # 29826

5,500.00

SF5001NL-1

(6) Safeguard иновы этэгий сктэээтий

TO REORDER, CALL YOUR LOCAL SAFEGUARD DISTRIBUTOR AT 812-332-6939

C7538K0010000

B16SF019926

B63833 STKDK03 10/18/2016 05:08 -190-

Southern Monroe vvater Authority for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Progress Bill

\$ 5,500.00

NON-BECORDING



London Witte Group is now LWG CPAs & Advisors
We've renewed our name and our focus of always going
beyond expectations for clients.

AFFIRMATION

I affirm the representations I made in the foregoing testimony are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

By: Richard J. Corey
Cause No. 45141-U
Indiana Office of

Utility Consumer Counselor

127 18-18

Date: